

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-02

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R 301233Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0059

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 1543

E.O. 11652: N/A

AGS: EINV, SU

SUBJ: SUDAN STOCK EXCHANGE?

1. BANK OF SUDAN ADVERTISEMENT JUNE 26 ANNOUNCED FORMATION OF "SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET," WHICH WOULD "FACILITATE DEALING IN THE SALE AND PURCHASE OF SHARES AND BONDS" FOR PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND MIXED PUBLIC/PRIVATE CORPORATIONS. ADVERTISEMENT INVITES FIRMS INTERESTED IN "JOINING MARKET" TO CONTACT SECRETARIAT.

2. COMMENT: WITH EXCEPTION OF 1969-71 PERIOD, SUDAN HAS ALWAYS HAD ACTIVE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND SSU IDEOLOGY AND ORGANIZATION NOW RESERVES NICHE FOR WHAT IS TERMED "NATIONAL CAPITALISM." NUMBER OF SUDANESE WHO OWN SHARE IN SOME BUSINESS IS REMARKABLY LARGE - SEVERAL THOUSAND IN CASE OF GUM ARABIC CORP ALONE. FACT THAT "PUBLIC SECTOR CORPORATIONS" ARE INCLUDED AS POTENTIAL STOCK EXCHANGE "MEMBERS" (MEANING PRESUMABLY THEIR SHARES WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR TRADING) SUGGESTS GOS MAY BE CONSIDERING, THROUGH SALE OF SHARES, ACTION TO DIVEST ITSELF AT LEAST PARTIALLY OF VENTURES WHICH, AS MIN FIN BIHEIRI POINTED OUT IN BUDGET SPEECH (TO BE REPORTED SEPARATELY) HAVE BECOME ECONOMIC ALBATROSS TO COUNTRY. BELIEVE USG SHOULD ASSIST BANK OF SUDAN IN STOCK MARKET VENTURE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, BEGINNING WITH EARLY PROVISION OF INFO
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ON STOCK EXCHANGES REQUESTED IN LETTER FROM GERLACH TO WATERMAN OF MARCH 17, 1975.

BREWER

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